

APPLICANT(S): LEVY, Andrew
SERIAL NO.: 10/584,998
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REMARKS

Claims 1-29 were pending in the application. Previously, Claims 2-14 were amended, and Claims 1 and 15-28 were withdrawn. Currently, Claims 7 and 29 are amended to correct grammar and spelling.

The Examiner has required restriction to one of the following groups:

Group I: claims 22-25, drawn to nucleic acid based methods for determining a potential of a diabetic patient to benefit from antioxidant therapy for treatment of vascular complications;

Group II: claims 27-28, drawn to protein based methods for determining a potential of a diabetic patient to benefit from antioxidant therapy for treatment of vascular complications;

Group III: claims 8-11, drawn to a kit comprising reagents for determining haptoglobin phenotype using nucleic acids; and

Group IV: claims 13-14, drawn to a kit comprising reagents for determining haptoglobin phenotype using immunological reagents.

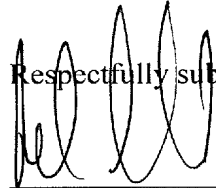
Applicants elect to pursue the claims of Group IV, claims 27-28, drawn to a kit comprising reagents for determining haptoglobin phenotype using immunological reagents, and linking claims 2-7, 12 and 29.

Applicants further request that upon the finding of allowability of the linking claims, the claims of Group III, claims 8-11, to a kit comprising reagents for determining haptoglobin phenotype using nucleic acids, be rejoined.

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If the Examiner has any questions or comments as to this response, the undersigned may be contacted at the address and telephone number below.

Please charge any fees associated with this paper to deposit account No. 50-3355.

Respectfully submitted,


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